

Children and Family Services Review (CFSR): Seven Outcomes

Safety

- Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
- Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

Permanency

- Children have permanency and stability in their living arrangements.
- The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

Child and Family Well-Being

- Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

CFSR: Seven Systematic Factors

- ① Statewide information system
- ① Case review system
- ① Quality assurance program
- ① Staff and provider training
- ① Service array
- ① Agency responsiveness to the community
- ① Foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment and retention

Measuring CFSR Outcomes

The two Outcomes that have Data Indicators are:

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State Data Profile

State Data Profiles are provided by the Children's Bureau using the following data sets submitted by the State and are designed to show the State's performance for the period under review and for previous years:

- ⦿ AFCARS – Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System
- ⦿ NCANDS – National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System

National Standards for the CFSR Data Indicators

- ⦿ State AFCARS and NCANDS data were used to establish the national standards.
- ⦿ Those measures and composites for which national standards have been developed are referred to as **Data Indicators.**

Safety Related Data Indicators

Safety Indicator 1: Absence of Recurrence of Maltreatment

Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated abuse or neglect during the first 6 months of the 12-month target period, what percentage did not experience a recurrence of maltreatment within 6 months?

National Standard = 94.6%

Safety Related Data Indicators

Safety Indicator 2: Absence of Abuse and Neglect in Foster Care

Of all children in foster care during the 12-month target period, what percentage were not maltreated by a foster parent or facility staff member?

National Standard = 99.68%

Fifteen Individual Measures in the Four Permanency Data Composites

This is where the changes occurred.

Basic CFSR Terminology-Data Composites

Individual Measure: A specific statement that addresses a desired outcome within a given composite (for example, the percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months)

Component: A primary part of a composite that may include one or more measures

Composite: A data indicator that incorporates State performance on multiple permanency-related individual measures

Familiar Examples of Composite Scores

Course Grade: Each component of a course grade may have a different “weight.” For example:

- **Test score = 60%**
- **Term paper = 25%**
- **Class participation = 10%**
- **Homework assignments = 5%**

SAT score: An SAT score represents performance on several subject areas:

- **Critical Reading (Verbal) – Includes passage reading, sentence completion, etc.**
- **Mathematics – Includes algebra, geometry, etc.**
- **Writing – Includes multiple choice questions and a writing sample**

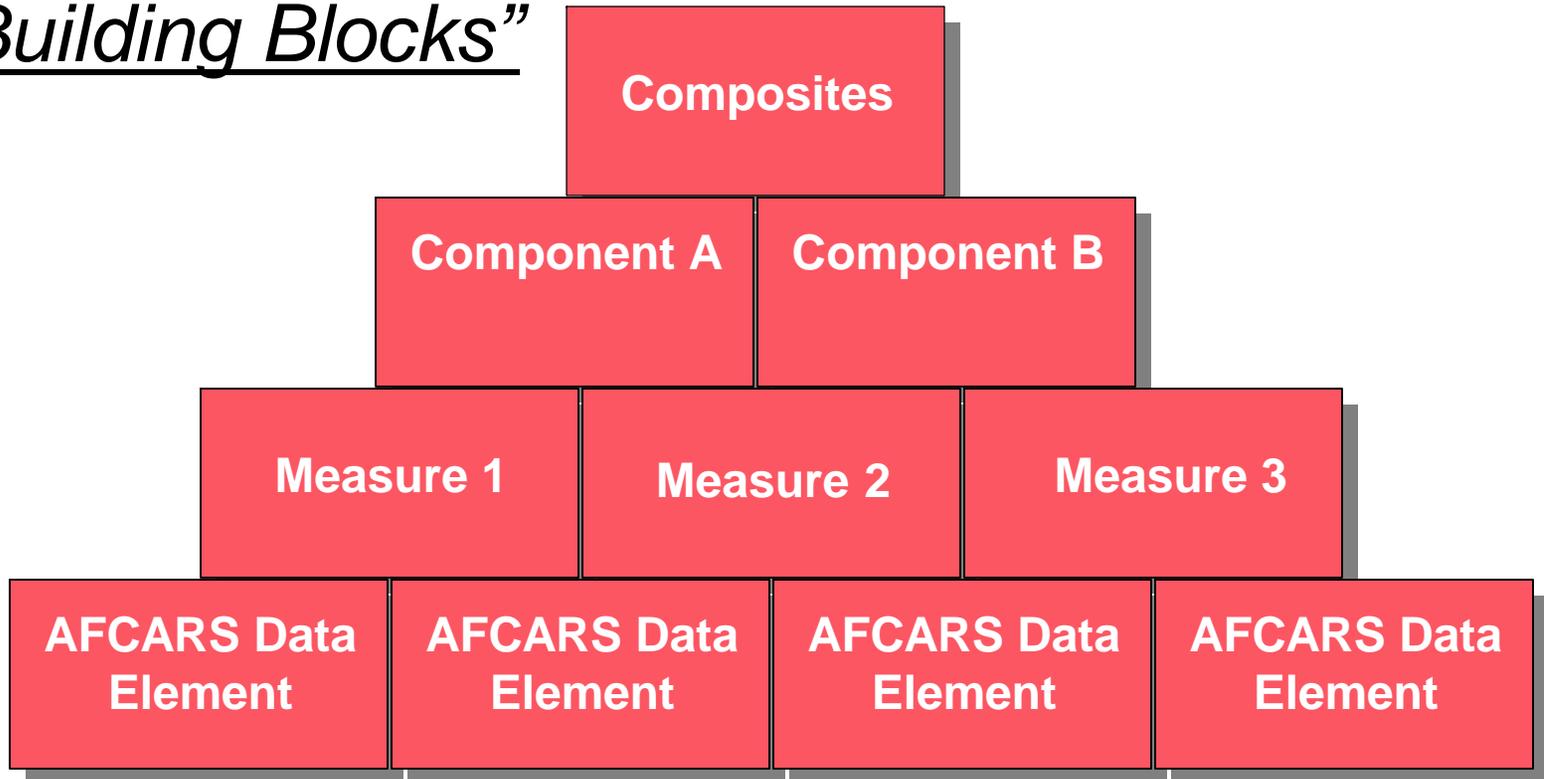
Why Data Composites for CFSSR Permanency Outcomes?

Data Composites:

- Are more comprehensive, more stable, and more reliable
- Measure a wider range of children's experiences
- Cover more of the State's child welfare population
- Provide a balanced view of a State's performance
- We (States) asked for them!

CFSR Data Composites

“The Building Blocks”



Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification*

National Standard = 122.6 or higher
ND (FFY 2006) = 105.6

Composite 1

Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification

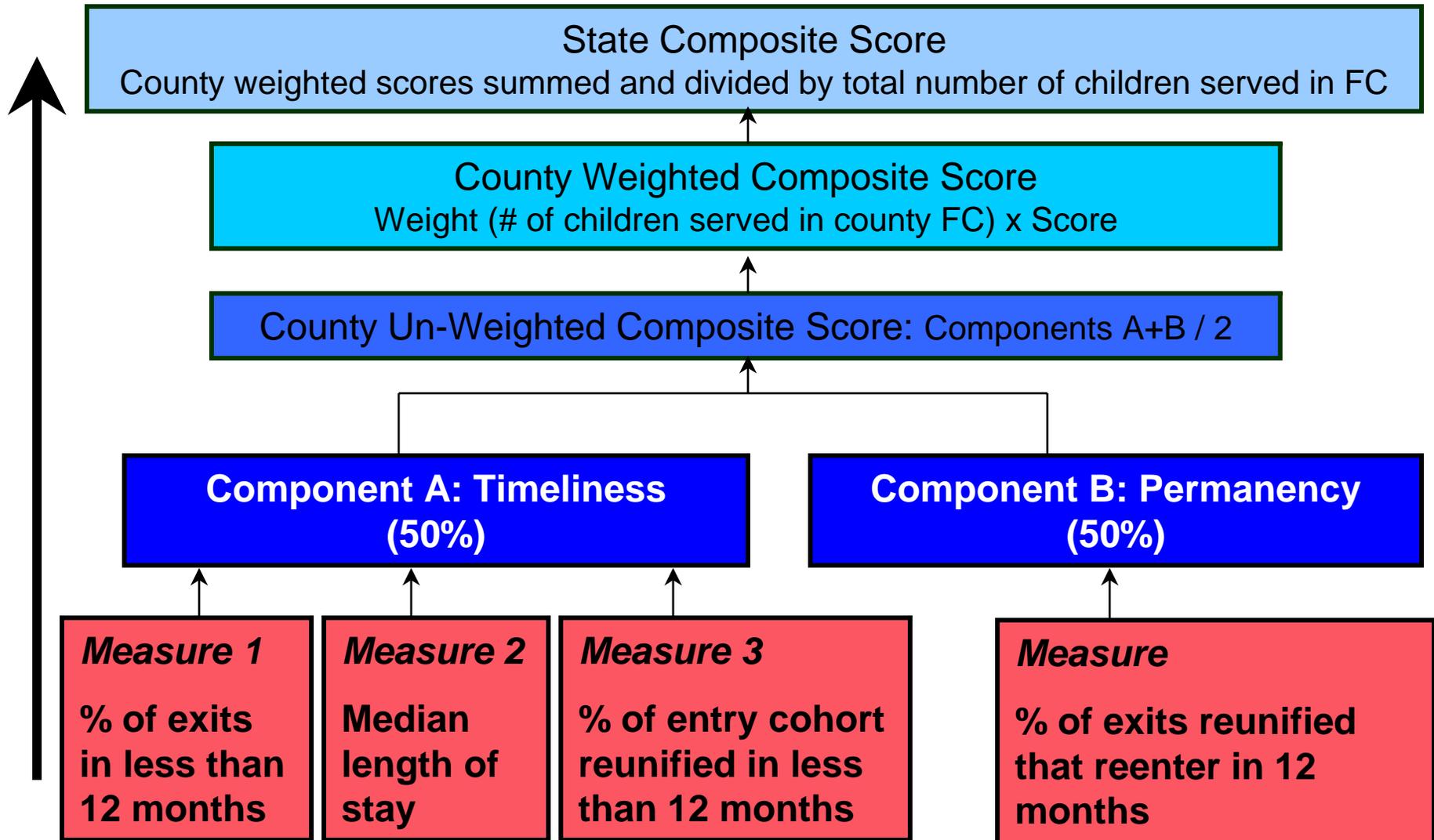
Component A – Timeliness of Reunification

- **Measure 1:** Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the target 12-month period, what percent were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of latest removal from home?
- **Measure 2:** Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the target 12-month period, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification?
- **Measure 3:** Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the target 12-month period, what percent were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of latest removal from home?

Composite 1
Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification
Component B – Permanency of Reunification

- **Measure 1:** Of all children who were discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the target 12-month period, what percent re-entered foster care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?

Composite 1: Timeliness & Permanency of Reunification



Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

National Standard = 106.4 or higher

ND (FFY 2006) = 116.1

Composite 2
Timeliness of Adoptions
***Component A – Timeliness of Adoptions of
Children Exiting Foster Care***

Of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the 12-month target period:

- **Measure 1:** What percent were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?
- **Measure 2:** What was the median length of stay in foster care in months from the date of latest removal from home to the date of discharge to adoption?

Composite 2

Timeliness of Adoptions

Component B – Progress toward adoption for children who have been in care for 17 months or longer

- **Measure 1:** Of all children in foster care on the first day of the 12-month target period who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, what percent were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the 12 month target period?
- **Measure 2:** Of all children in foster care on the first day of the 12-month target period who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, and were not legally free for adoption prior to that day, what percent became legally free for adoption during the first 6-months of the 12-month target period?

Composite 2

Timeliness of Adoptions

Component C – Timeliness of adoptions for children who are legally free for adoption

Measure: Of all children who became legally free for adoption during the 12 months prior to the target 12-month period, what percent were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time

National Standard = 121.7 or
higher

ND (FFY 2006) = 130.2

Composite 3

Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care

Component A: Achieving permanency for children in foster care for extended periods of time

- **Measure 1:** Of all children who were in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the 12-month target period, what percent were discharged to a permanent home by the last day of the 12-month period and prior to their 18th birthday? (discharge reason of adoption, reunification, living with other relative, or guardianship)
- **Measure 2:** Of all children who were discharged from foster care during the 12-month target period, and who were legally free for adoption (i.e., there is a parental rights termination date for both parents) at the time of discharge, what percent were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?

Composite 3

Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care Component B – Children growing up in foster care

Measure: Of all children who either (1) were, prior to age 18, discharged from foster care during the 12-month target period with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care but had not yet been discharged from foster care, what percent were in foster care for 3 years or longer?

Composite 4: Placement Stability

National Standard = 101.5 or higher

ND (FFY 2006) = 94.4

Composite 4

Placement Stability

(Composite 4 has no components)

- **Measure 1:** Of all children who were served in foster care during the 12-month target period, and who were in foster care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percent had two or fewer placement settings?
- **Measure 2:** Of all children who were served in foster care during the 12-month target period, and who were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percent had two or fewer placement settings?
- **Measure 3:** Of all children who were served in foster care during the 12-month target period, and who were in foster care for at least 24 months, what percent had two or fewer placement settings?

Measuring Performance on the Five Remaining Outcomes ?

Safety

- Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
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Permanency

- Children have permanency and stability in their living arrangements.
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Child and Family Well-Being

- **Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.**
- **Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.**
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Measuring Systematic Factors ??

- ⦿ Statewide information system
- ⦿ Case review system
- ⦿ Quality assurance program
- ⦿ Staff and provider training
- ⦿ Service array
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What is the Federal Guidance?

“....Use supplemental data, other than the AFCARS and NCANDS profiles, to examine other outcomes and systemic factors. Because the AFCARS and NCANDS profiles address only two outcomes (Safety Outcome 1 and Permanency Outcome 1), assessing other State data that address the remaining outcomes and the systemic factors increases the State's ability to understand the factors that affect its performance....”

CB Procedures Manual, Chapter 3 – State Assessment

Want to Read More?

- Handouts
- ND Dept. of Human Services Website:
<http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/family.html>
- Everything you wanted to know about the CFSR process, but were afraid to ask:
<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/>
<http://www.nrccwdt.org/>

Questions?

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